GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2555
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015
Research on Marble Slurry
Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any environmental study/research on health and environmental impact due to haphazard disposal of marble slurry;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with the findings of such study/research;
(c) whether the Government has evolved any environment friendly methods for economic and technical solutions of the problems occurring at marble scurries, processing plants, polishing facilities and machineries and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for adopting clean environment methods by various marble industries in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)&(b) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change commissioned a study on 'Recycling of Marble Slurry waste for Environmental Improvement' through Indian Environmental Society. The important recommendations made in the study report include:

(i) Marble processing units may be persuaded to make use of Filter Press.
(ii) Proper land area may be identified and allotted closer to the marble processing centres, for disposal of the pressed marble slurry cake.
(iii) It should be ensured that the marble slurry is disposed of only at earmarked sites.
(iv) Marble slurry may be used in road construction, embankments or as back fill material.

(c)&(d) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises through a study report has identified that Rajasthan produces 95 percent of marble quarried in India. A 'Status Report on commercial utilization of marble slurry in Rajasthan' has been formulated by MSME-Development Institute, Jaipur. The Government of Rajasthan has come out with modifications in Rajasthan Mines and Mineral Concession Rules, 1986 by incorporating provisions for management of the mineral wastes. The Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board is imposing conditions through consent mechanism on marble processing units to take steps to reuse and process the slurry generated.

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